

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2040

Introduced by Assembly Member Brownley

February 17, 2010

An act to amend Section 44252.1 of the Education Code, relating to teacher credentialing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2040, as introduced, Brownley. Teacher credential preparation programs.

The Commission on Teacher Credentialing is required to adopt a framework and general standards for the accreditation of preparation programs for teachers and other certificated educators, including integrated programs of professional preparation, which enable candidates for teaching credentials to engage in professional preparation concurrently with subject matter preparation while completing baccalaureate degrees at regionally accredited postsecondary institutions.

Existing law requires the commission, by June 30, 2004, to have reported to the education policy committees in each house of the Legislature on the success of the integrated program of professional development toward preparing teacher candidates, as specified.

This bill would change that date to November 1, 2011.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 44252.1 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:

1 44252.1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that a credential
2 candidate enrolled in a credential preparation program receive
3 reasonable time to complete the program without meeting new
4 requirements, including, but not limited to, requirements added
5 by statutes, regulations, or commission standards, after the
6 candidate's enrollment in the program. Further, to ensure that all
7 candidates for a credential receive reasonable information and
8 advice as they proceed through their program, the Legislature finds
9 and declares that it is incumbent upon credential preparation
10 programs to inform candidates of new requirements and extension
11 provisions available to eligible candidates.

12 (b) For the purposes of this section, the following terms ~~shall~~
13 have the following meanings:

14 (1) "Enrolled" refers to an individual who, on or after January
15 1, 2002, continuously participates in and is working toward
16 completing the requirements for a program that meets the minimum
17 requirements for a California preliminary multiple or single subject
18 teaching credential as specified in Section 44259. Whether an
19 individual is enrolled shall be subject to verification by the
20 Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

21 (2) "Continuously enrolled" refers to an individual who has
22 begun a teacher preparation program and does not have a break in
23 that participation that exceeds a period of 18 months.

24 (c) The commission shall adopt regulations to provide a
25 credential candidate enrolled in a commission-accredited
26 preparation program, including, but not limited to, an internship
27 program as defined in Article 7.5 (commencing with Section
28 44325) and Article 3 (commencing with Section 44450), a
29 professional preparation program as defined in Article 7
30 (commencing with Section 44320), or an integrated program of
31 professional preparation as defined in Section 44259.1 with a grace
32 period to complete the program without meeting new requirements,
33 including, but not limited to, requirements added by statutes,
34 regulations, or commission standards, after the candidate's
35 enrollment in the program. The commission shall also ensure
36 through standards and accreditation procedures that credential
37 preparation programs provide credential candidates with
38 information about new requirements and extension provisions as
39 outlined in this subdivision and subdivisions (d) and (e).

1 (1) The commission shall adopt regulations that provide a
2 credential candidate enrolled in a commission-accredited
3 preparation program time of not less than 24 months after
4 enrollment in the program, during which time new or amended
5 statutes, regulations, and commission standards that become
6 effective and are imposed on credential candidates after the
7 candidate's enrollment date shall not apply to that candidate.

8 (2) The commission shall allow a credential candidate an
9 extension of time in addition to the time specified pursuant to
10 paragraph (1) to complete a credential program under the statutes,
11 regulations, and commission standards in place at the time of the
12 candidate's enrollment if the candidate can demonstrate extenuating
13 circumstances, including, but not limited to, personal or family
14 illness, bereavement, or financial hardship and develops a plan, in
15 consultation with the credential preparation program, for continued
16 progress toward completion of the preparation program.

17 (d) The commission shall maintain a list of candidates who are
18 allowed an extended time period to complete the program under
19 the statutes, regulations, and commission standards in place at the
20 time of the candidates' enrollment prior to the effective date of a
21 new or amended statute, regulation, or standard. This list shall
22 include the projected date of program completion for each
23 candidate.

24 (e) (1) A credential candidate enrolled in an integrated program
25 of professional preparation pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section
26 44259.1 is not subject to any new requirements added by statute,
27 regulation, or commission standards if that candidate is
28 continuously enrolled in the program, as defined in paragraph (2)
29 of subdivision (b), and does not change the type of credential or
30 program he or she is pursuing once enrolled.

31 (2) A credential candidate continuously enrolled in an integrated
32 program of professional preparation pursuant to subdivision (a)
33 of Section 44259.1 who has completed all requirements necessary
34 to begin the student teaching component of his or her program
35 shall be eligible to receive an extension of 12 months, if necessary,
36 to complete the outstanding requirements that were in place when
37 that credential candidate began the preparation program, and shall
38 not be subject to any new requirements added by statute, regulation,
39 or commission standards, once that candidate begins the student
40 teaching portion of his or her program.

1 (3) This subdivision does not limit the ability of a candidate to
2 seek additional time to complete a credential pursuant to paragraph
3 (2) of subdivision (c).

4 (4) By ~~June 30, 2004~~ *November 1, 2011*, the commission shall
5 report to the education policy committees in each house of the
6 Legislature on the success of the integrated program of professional
7 development pursuant to Section 44259.1 toward preparing teacher
8 candidates, including, but not limited to, the number of students
9 admitted to the teacher education component in each program, the
10 number of students who have completed all course requirements,
11 including student teaching, and who have applied for a credential,
12 the number of students applying for and receiving an extension
13 pursuant to subdivision (e), and the information collected pursuant
14 to subdivision (d).

15 (f) This section does not supersede subdivision (h) of Section
16 44259.

17 (g) A modification of a credentialing examination by the
18 commission that is made as the result of a validity study or a
19 passing standard study shall not be considered a new requirement
20 for purposes of this section.

21 (h) If credential preparation coursework that a credential
22 candidate has not yet taken is modified, the candidate shall take
23 the modified coursework instead of the previously required
24 coursework unless the modified coursework is not readily available,
25 the modified coursework would result in an increased cost to the
26 candidate, or completion of the modified coursework would delay
27 the candidate's completion of the credential preparation program.

28 (i) Once a candidate has received a preliminary California
29 teaching credential pursuant to Section 44259 and is employed as
30 the teacher of record in a California public school, the candidate
31 shall not be subject to any new requirements for completing the
32 induction phase required to obtain the professional clear teaching
33 credential pursuant to Section 44279.4, for a period not to exceed
34 the length of time provided for the preliminary teaching credential
35 pursuant to Section 44251.